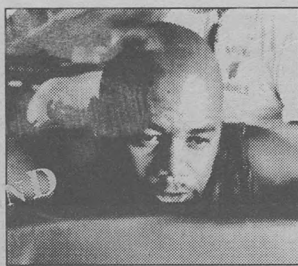


AND THE OSCAR GOES TO ...

The Hatchet makes its picks for next week's Academy Awards.

Pull out the WEEK

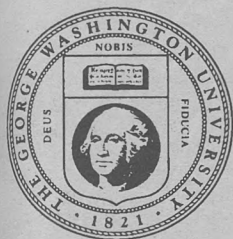


ANNUAL REPORT

GW's 'stockholders' say 6.9 percent increase in investment provides questionable dividends.



AN INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



THE GW HATCHET

Vol. 93, No. 52

Serving The George Washington University Community Since 1904

Thursday, March 13, 1997

CI Cabinet encouraged to avoid boycott

BY JIM GERAGHTY
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Members of next year's Colonial Inauguration Cabinet received an e-mail message this week discouraging them from attending Thursday's student boycott of J Street.

The message was sent by Mike Gargano, special assistant to Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services Robert Chernak.

Some students who work for the Office of Undergraduate Admissions also have received e-mail messages discouraging participation in the boycott.

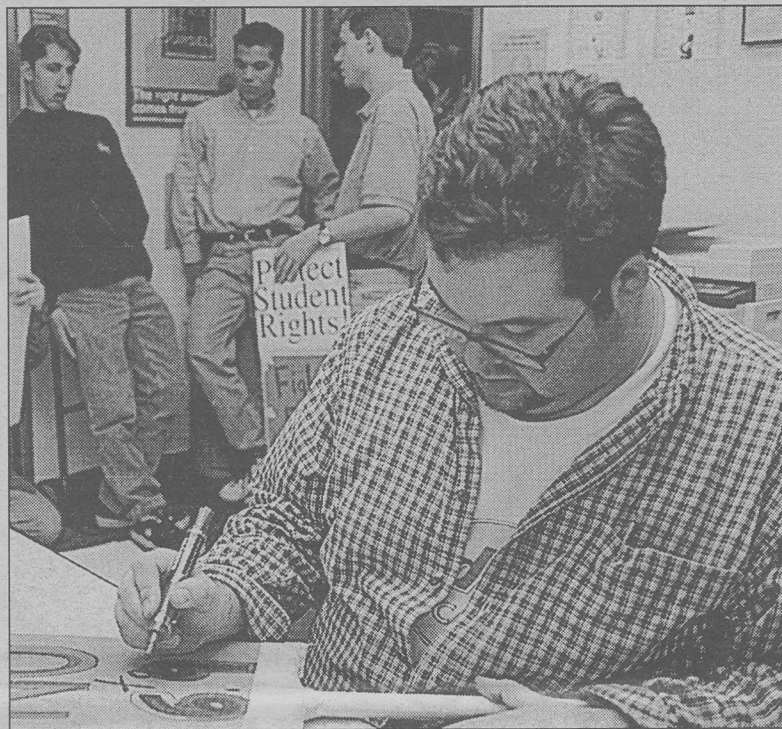
"I think it did bother some people," said a member of the Colonial Cabinet who requested not to be identified. "It's crossing a fine line, and upset some people a little bit ... it's overstepping a boundary."

The Cabinet member said it was not an order or a suggestion, but "a request to not get involved."

Gargano sent a second e-mail message clarifying why he sent the first.

"It was not an order and not a recommendation," Gargano said. "No stigma or potential stigma was associated to what I had mentioned to them."

"I don't see why there was any



Tyson Trish/Visuals Editor

Student Association Assistant Vice President for Public Affairs Rob Hendin makes picket signs for Thursday's J Street boycott.

discussion in the first place," said Adam Siple, a member of last year's Cabinet. As an undergraduate Student Association senator, Siple has been involved in organizing the boycott. "Is it their role? Cabinet members are students just like anyone else."

"We encourage freedom of speech and freedom of action. I make myself available at any time. I have such a relationship with them so that we can have a very open discussion," Gargano said. "I

didn't see it to be something big ... if I have a problem I'd see them or have them come here."

"They are students and they have various student rights. In this particular situation, they are also Colonial Cabinet members, and they have certain responsibilities, and they need to think first before they act. Are they acting in best benefit of themselves and what they represent and what the cause is?"

Sen. Lance Rothenberg (CSAS),

(See GARGANO, p. 7)

SA hopes for show of campus unity

Organizers hope boycott sends message

BY STACEY FELSEN
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Students protesting the University's proposed 6 percent meal plan cost increase and proposed 6.9 percent tuition and fees increase will boycott J Street Thursday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in what Student Association officials are calling a sign of "solidarity."

Picket lines will form around the Marvin Center to discourage students from entering the 21st and H street entrances to J Street, according to event facilitators.

Several meetings have been held to organize the boycott, and local media have been contacted about the day's events.

University Police Director Dolores Stafford said it is possible that she will place one UPD officer in the Marvin Center during the boycott, but added that her main concern is that protesters do not block public traffic.

"UPD's only concern is that students can't impede anyone's ability to pass through the protest, whether they are walking on the sidewalks or driving on the streets," Stafford said.

"Everything needs to be orderly and focused," undergraduate Sen. Adam Siple (CSAS) said. "No final decision has been made yet regarding cost increases - we need to

encourage the administration to work with the students this time. If we can keep this clean and professional, the administration will respond."

Red posters, banners, e-mail messages and word-of-mouth will inform students of the boycott, Siple said.

"I want this to be a movement of the students and for the students," he said. "This movement doesn't belong to me. It belongs to the students. The unity of this effort is really important. We want J Street empty." Students also will be encouraged to "stay away from the Marvin Center if at all possible" during the hours of the boycott, though there is no active boycott against the building, Siple said.

"The Marvin Center is the focus of campus life," he explained, and students can send a message by not going there. He added that the boycott is a protest not only of J Street, but also the lack of adequate service in Rice Hall and other campus offices.

No active boycott is organized against the Thurston Hall dining facility, but students will be discouraged from eating in the cafeteria, Siple said.

Students are not just fighting J Street, but the "whole package," said SA Dining Services

(See EATERIES, p. 9)

Clinton's D.C. proposal would benefit University

BY KEVIN ECKSTROM
SENIOR NEWS EDITOR

President Clinton's \$300 million plan to spark economic revival in the District has some GW administrators hoping they will be able to get a slice of the pie.

GW President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg said Clinton's proposals offer a glimmer of hope for both the University and the District.

"Anything that's good for the District is good for GW," Trachtenberg said, "and to the extent that this initiative indicates the administration's concern for the welfare of this city, it's all a plus."

Portions of the stimulus package will include grants for job training and education, and Trachtenberg said GW will want to be a part of those programs.

"If there's a way we can make a contribution, we'll be pleased to do whatever we can," Trachtenberg said. "A city that is better run will immediately make the administration of the University easier."

Clinton unveiled the plan on Tuesday, and while the proposal has been met with praise by some D.C. officials, others have questioned the long-term effectiveness of more federal involvement in D.C. government.

Under Clinton's plan, a new federally-funded Economic Development Corporation would oversee and promote economic investment in downtown Washington and the city's poorest neighborhoods.

In addition, Clinton's plan calls for \$250 million in tax incentives for investing, lending and financing of small businesses in

(See TRACHTENBERG, p. 8)

700 Series offers a new look

Variety of interdisciplinary courses explore academic horizons

BY NIKKI KOLODNY
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Registration will follow fast on the heels of spring break, beginning April 2 for graduate students and April 7 for undergraduates.

Some students may suffer from registration blues - thumbing through the Schedule of Classes, groaning at time conflicts and slim pickings, or just wanting to take non-requirement classes. But the 700 Series, one of GW's often over-looked treasures, offers students unusual courses that cross departmental boundaries.

Founded in 1975, the 700 Series program is designed to enrich the curriculum and invite innovation, according to a report prepared by Dr. Donna Scarboro, director of Summer and Experimental Programs and director of the 700 Series.

In the past 15 years, more than 10,000 students have enrolled in 700 Series courses, Scarboro's report said.

Not only is the subject matter unique, but the courses are taught by University professors and other faculty from diverse backgrounds and disciplines who are dedicated to offering students fresh

perspectives, Scarboro said.

"These courses spawn new ideas and opportunities," said Maida Withers, a professor in the theater and dance department who will teach a "dance in community settings" class.

Dance in community settings sets out to combine the theoretical and the practical aspects of empowering the community, Withers said. Students learn the theoretical components behind communities, then work with professional dancers at abuse shelters, nursing homes, AIDS clinics and other local places to empower people through dance.

Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr, who will teach religion and science, said he seeks to offer students a blend of comparative thinking between the two disciplines.

"The 700 series is a crowning intellectual achievement that allows students to get a more general view of humanity, science and the human condition," Nasr said. "Some of the most important problems of our day cannot be approached in one discipline."

Dr. Molly Frost will teach Chinese women in myth, literature and film again in the fall. The

(See 700, p. 8)

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University battles to balance its aid

Students struggle to make ends meet

BY JOANNA MARKELL
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Freshman Desiree Battaglia did not visit schools when she was looking at colleges last year. She said she came to GW because they gave her the best financial aid package.

Since almost all of her tuition is covered by financial aid, the proposed 6.9 percent tuition increase has her worried.

"It's scary not knowing where you're going to be in the next few years. I know if (tuition) goes up next year, I can't come back," she said.

Financial aid is a part of the tuition picture in a big way for both students and administrators at GW. Since 1993, the percentage of total tuition dollars earmarked for financial aid at the University decreased from 44 percent in 1993 to about 36 percent this year.

Under next year's proposed tuition increase the number will be 37 percent, although University administrators say they hope to reach a target of 35 percent by the year 2000.

While that percentage, also known as the discount rate, has decreased during the past decade, the financial aid budget for undergraduate students has increased from slightly under \$6 million in 1988 to \$42 million this year, said Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services Robert Chernak.

"Keeping the discount rate aside, tuition has gone up about 100 percent during those nine years. In the same period of time, financial aid has increased 600 percent," he said.

The University bases the discount rate on the demographics of enrollment and the demonstrated need of students, Chernak added. In turn, the changing reputation of

the school and competition for new students are other factors.

"We're where we want to be and if you look at the competition, we're at a very nice position," Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management Frederic Siegel said. "I think we're aggressive enough to recruit the top quality students, but we're not frivolously buying students with scholarships more generous than the market suggests."

Meanwhile, students and administrators are in the middle of the financial aid application process for next fall. While Battaglia said she has thought of transferring, she is waiting for word from the financial aid office first. According to Dan Small, director of the Office of Student Financial Assistance, continuing students are a primary concern of the University.

"The first thing I always go to is ... our commitment to the continuing students," he said. "We do not want to get into a bait-and-switch scenario."

With 68 percent of GW undergraduates on some form of financial aid, Small described the process as a balancing act.

"What we're hoping to do is to come to a happy medium," he said. "We're stretching ourselves out, and the students and families are stretching themselves out the best they can."

Chernak added that while inherent stress points are a part of the system, meeting the demonstrated need of every student would prevent the University from providing other services.

"I think that everyone looks at overall what our university provides," Small said. "I don't think people come to GW just for financial aid. I think it becomes part of the selection process. It becomes part of the puzzle."

Student appeals Senate seat to court

School of Medicine and Health Sciences Student Council President Bob Nelson has filed a suit in Student Court against the Joint Elections Committee, claiming his Senate victory was unfairly invalidated.

The JEC received seven complaints about Nelson, who won one of the SMHS Senate seats last month. The complaints said he campaigned in front of a voting booth. The JEC dismissed four of the complaints on appeal, but Nelson still had enough points to be invalidated.

"(I) was not illegally campaigning and request that the three complaints against (me) be dropped," Nelson said in a statement to the court. "During the JEC appeal hearing, no evidence was brought forward to show that (I) was illegally campaigning within 100 feet of a voting booth."

JEC Chair Chris Moody said of Nelson, "The JEC members voted on this issue and a majority felt that the people who spoke were reliable, and the JEC moved forward with its decision."

-Matt Berger

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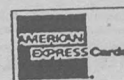
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THE GW HATCHET

An Independent Student Newspaper

Out to lunch

It looks as if the administration is pretty nervous about Thursday's student boycott of J Street. Mike Gargano, a special assistant to Vice President for Student and Academic Support Services Robert Chernak, sent the new members of the Colonial Cabinet a "friendly" e-mail suggesting that they should not participate in the boycott.

Gargano said he was just trying to offer advice to the Cabinet members, to help them see the big picture in the issue. That may be so, but it was still a thoughtless thing to do.

Students are students first and employees of the University second. They have the right to express themselves on issues that directly affect them, and no issue is more important on this campus right now than the tuition increase.

It's true that the Cabinet members represent the University to prospective students, and that as guardians of GW's image their behavior must be impeccable. (Student employees in the Office of Admissions were also told it might be better for them not to participate.) But it's also true that many student employees of the University only work because they need money to offset the constantly rising tuition.

In addition, being an employee does not mean these students must refrain from taking part in normal student life, even if that includes protesting against the administration. It's not like the boycott is taking place during a Colonial Inauguration, with hundreds of new students around. Participating in the boycott would in no way hamper these students' abilities to do their jobs.

Someone like Gargano, with the official weight of the University behind him, needs to be more careful about how he handles such a situation. Coming from an official at his administrative level, even a friendly suggestion might seem intimidating to a student employee.

And now that the administration is looking over its shoulder, students need to stay the course and prepare for the next step, if necessary. The boycott has been superbly organized, and we expect it to be an enormous success. If administrators choose not to heed the call, then pickets outside J Street will be the least of their problems.

Small actions

The death of rapper Biggie Smalls, a.k.a. Notorious B.I.G., is yet another senselessly violent chapter in the ongoing "East Coast vs. West Coast" saga of the rap world. It's pretty ridiculous that people are being killed in a dispute that has its roots in mere artistic differences.

It's OK to have a rivalry. For example, Biggie and West Coast rapper Tupac Shakur regularly dissed each other in their recordings. But when it was elevated to violence — first Shakur's death, now Biggie's — the people involved obviously forgot just how minute their differences were. Rap is an exciting art form. Why sully it by killing artists over a stupid regional rivalry?

Biggie's lifestyle wasn't all that different from any other gang member — at least, that's certainly what he'd have liked to think. He used to be a crack dealer before he became a recording star. But the Los Angeles police are now working overtime to find his killer. Think they would do that for some teenage kid from Compton? The double standard this sends is disturbing.

What's also disturbing is how much record executives and those in the rap world stand to profit from Biggie's death. The producer of the new hip-hop documentary *Rhyme & Reason* lamented the killing but also used the news as an opportunity to plug his film. Bad Boy Records, Biggie's label, stands to make a big profit from sales of his album *Life and Death*, sales of which skyrocketed this week.

Rappers on both coasts need to cut the crap and start concentrating on making music. Many say they just want to help people understand the problems of the gangsta lifestyle. Well, they should do that, but they shouldn't be irresponsible enough to live out the things they're rapping about.

The GW HATCHET

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Boycott sends a simple message: 6.9 is not an acceptable number

The student protest outside of J Street Thursday sends one simple message: A tuition increase of 6.9 percent is too high. Our actions are worth 1,000 words. We don't want to be angry at our future alma mater, but we are losing faith in the administrators who are supposed to be protecting our interests. We are losing faith in our administrators' concern for student interests. If they did care, they would listen more.

The Student Association has defined this concern for student interest loosely as "student input." The SA has consistently said it wants more student input in decisions that affect us, whether financially or in our quality of life. The equation is simple: We will have more faith in administrators if they develop a greater interest in student input.

The reason for this is simple. Throughout our four years, we as students invest \$120,000 in this University. It may be peanuts compared to the \$1 billion it costs to run this place, but it is sizable for us. We need to be assured that our money is being spent appropriately. The SA's discussion with the business affairs division over the meal plan pricing for next year demonstrates the lack of cooperation between students and the administration.

The administration has increased the cost of the meal plan 6 percent for next year, despite saying it needs to be raised only 4.5 percent to cover costs. The 1.5 percent discrepancy between what is needed to run the meal plan and

what students are charged amounts to about \$82,000. If we had faith that this money would be reinvested in the meal plan (to run a 24-hour diner or re-introduce off-campus partners, for example) we would not be out in front of J Street Thursday. But we do not have such faith.

This example is not the only one giving students reason to lose faith in their administrators. When the administration falls five years behind on technology and then pro-

Jason Haber
Derek Pillie
Adam Siple
Rusty Stahl
Jesse Strauss

ceeds to charge us a \$200 technology fee, we lose faith. When the University spends unknown millions to purchase a dilapidated college when it should be investing in the University it already has, we lose faith. When the Division of Student and Academic Support Services has to cut financial aid because we sold our hospital, we lose faith. And when our concerns are ignored and we get only platitudes about planting trees from our president, we get angry. And then we get mobilized.

Fortunately, the situation here at GW is not as dire as that of our

friends at the University of the District of Columbia; if their school closes, they will be denied a college education. We at GW had the luxury of choosing almost any school in the nation. We chose GW because of its uniqueness. We know deep down that these problems can be fixed and the students' concerns can be addressed.

However, if GW continues on its present course of financial aid cuts and increases in tuition, we risk becoming a bastion of elitism amidst the dynamic synergy of this city. This would be a tragedy, and GW would lose the qualities that make it unique. By protesting, GW students are showing resolve to stop this from happening. We are taking the first step to rebuilding our faith in GW's concern for its students.

Please, join in solidarity with your fellow students and do not eat lunch at J Street Thursday. Go instead to one of the off-campus establishments that are offering special deals for GW students. This time our message is too clear for the administration to ignore: If GW doesn't serve us, we can go elsewhere.

—Jason Haber and Derek Pillie are Student Association senators-elect for the Columbian School of Arts and Sciences. Adam Siple is a CSAS senator and chair of the Senate Student Life Committee.

Rusty Stahl is coordinator of SAYIT (Students Against Yearly Increasing Tuition) and Jesse Strauss is a CSAS senator-elect and director of the SA Dining Services Commission.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Q needs you

I would like to begin by thanking everyone who participated in the recent campus-wide student elections. Now that the campaign is over, I want everyone to know that the Student Association is currently soliciting applications for available positions in the SA next year.

One of the main goals next year will be to see a Student Association that is full of people who care about making GW a better place for all students. For three years I have refrained from writing editorials. Now, as I am creating a new SA, there is nothing more important to me than making sure all students know they can get involved in the SA. Together we can work toward positive change at GW. Many of you may be hesitant to apply because you have no previous SA experience. However, this is not a requirement to play a role in the new SA. I am looking for students who have energy, enthusiasm and a willingness to work hard to get a job done.

The applications are in the SA office in Marvin Center 424, and if for some reason the SA office is closed, you also can pick up applications in front of the Campus Activities Office, Marvin Center 427. I strongly encourage anyone

who is interested in getting involved in the SA to apply. The applications are due March 25, so please come by and pick one up to find out more about all the different roles available.

In addition, I would like to take this opportunity to invite all members of the GW community to the Student Association transition ceremony. It will take place on May 1 at 1:30 p.m. on the Quad. This is a great opportunity to meet your newly inducted SA officials. If you have any questions, please contact me at the SA office at 994-7100.

This is the first step to creating a more open and active SA. I hope I have the pleasure of working with many of you soon!

—Kuyomars "Q" Golparvar
SA president-elect

No intolerance here

To those who believed The GW Hatchet's editorial "Intolerance" (March 3, p. 4), which implied that the Christian group P-FOX (Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays) was founded in hate, I challenge you to attend one of their meetings and find the hate The Hatchet claims. Groups like P-FOX, Courage and Exodus do not hate homosexuals. They do not even say God hates them. How can Jesus,

who died on the cross for all sinners, hate anyone?

The Hatchet got only one thing right. The Bible tells us that God loves everyone, but The Hatchet conveniently forgot to tell us everything the Bible says. It talks about heaven — and hell. It talks about love — and sin. Jesus tells the crowd who were going to stone an adulteress, "Those of you without sin cast the first stone." No one could. Then He turned to the adulteress and said, "I do not condemn you. Sin no more."

It is groups such as P-FOX, Courage and Exodus who love the homosexual as Jesus does. They endure all sorts of falsehoods to help these children of God turn back toward Him and away from their lifestyles. One other thing The Hatchet conveniently forgot to mention was that these groups all have ex-gays as members. They really know what a person in the gay lifestyle is going through, and they really decided to choose to get out of it. For anyone who was seriously considering approaching P-FOX, please do not let The Hatchet decide for you what they are about. Go and see for yourself.

—Greg Coan
head coach, GW cross country

See MORE LETTERS, p. 5

OPINION

Students aren't just customers – they're investors, too

The modern private university is a highly complex corporate entity. With revenue sources ranging from current students to alumni to real estate, it is forced into a complex array of endeavors to improve its financial position. Combine the headaches associated with improving these university revenues with the complexity of university expenses, and it becomes highly apparent that operating a university is no easy task.

Business schools such as GW's School of Business and Public Management train us with theories that model the workings of most large businesses in this country. Unfortunately, the private university is one business for which a suitable model does not exist.

The current model depicts students as the customers of the university. This method adds a dimension of customer service to the campus that is certainly needed. For example, students at GW are now far more likely to have their demands for improved programming addressed by the Office of Campus Activities. The officials in Campus Activities realize we are not merely students, but we are those University patrons who ultimately pay their salaries.

The problem with this model, however, is that it fails to adequately address the relationship between the student body and the

University's managers. Let me explain by example. Were I to secure a company to roof my house for \$30,000 (an expenditure similar to one year at GW), I would likely receive customer service treatment on par with that which I receive at GW. However, if the company's work were not satisfactory, I could cancel the contract and get all or part of my money back. There is no money-back guarantee accompanying an education. Once I commit to it, I am almost completely stuck with it.

Of course, I could transfer schools. This makes our model even more difficult to develop. My transfer could possibly be viewed as the option to cancel a service contract after some service had

already been performed – say \$60,000 if I were to transfer after my sophomore year.

But a much better model exists. Instead of viewing students as mere clients, we should be viewed as investors as well. We would be considered as those individuals who supply the life blood of capital to the corporation and who rightly deserve not only a return on that capital, but also a say in the use of that capital.

Acknowledging us as investors in this private corporation would make University administrators more aware of the fact that

our choice to attend GW is one we make with a high degree of thought, and one which we do not want simply to cancel. If I invest money in a corporation, I do everything that is possible to ensure principal growth, walking away only in the worst possible scenario.

I am certain that GW's top managers are fully aware of the customer-oriented model of students. I do not feel, however, that the administration adequately understands the role we students play as investors.

*Michael
Morath*

Frequently, we are not given the proper forum in which our concerns regarding corporate policy can be voiced.

No, I do not think it wise that students, who are mere four-year investors in the company, vote on the company's permanent Board of Trustees, as is the example in the non-academic world. I do, however, think that University executives must be cognizant of the true role students play in this corporation. If our administrators did understand this relationship, I cannot imagine how they would mandate an investment structure change on the order of \$2,000 per investor per year without a thorough explanation.

Vagaries such as an "improvement to Gelman Library" or "increased technological

capacity" would not induce me to increase my investment in this University by 6.9 percent. If someone were to present a business plan to me with this kind of vague usage of funds, I would laugh it off as poorly conceived, or at the very least poorly explained.

Of course, I have little choice about this particular business proposal. I have invested quite a bit of time and money in GW so far, and I do not plan to stop over a \$2,000 difference. Plus, I like GW. It is a dynamic corporate institution in a dynamic city, and that is not going to change with a 6.9 percent increase in the overall cost of attendance.

However, our administrators should take heed of this advice – students are the investors in this company, and the investors are upset. My fairly mild anger bordering on ambivalence is not shared by most GW students. Many of my fellow students, emboldened by the political rhetoric found in this institution and this city, are ready to march for their money. That is not going to make the lives of our administrators very festive, and they should take notice. If this festering student anger is not properly addressed, the executives of our corporation could witness a dramatic decrease in GW's stock price as measured by U.S. News & World Report.

—Michael Morath is a junior majoring in finance.

MORE LETTERS

Heartless

Saturday afternoon I saw a scene that broke my heart. I was walking on campus and I saw a man on the corner having a seizure, laying on the ground and completely helpless. No one bothered to stop, much less care. He was not drunk, he was sick. But everyone looked at him with distaste and looked away. I stopped to help him. He told me he had a disease, that I couldn't quite hear the name of, that gave him seizures.

I asked if he needed an ambulance or a doctor. We were just across the street from GW Hospital. He said he just wanted to get up. I tried to help, but he was much bigger than me. He grabbed my hand and whispered, "My name is Fred. Thank you." Never have I seen such a look. He knew that people were walking by and thought that he was not even worth helping. He was so thankful that I cared. Slowly, after several attempts and falls he managed to get to his feet. I asked him over and over if he needed me to get help. He shook his head and kept thanking me over and over.

He was a man who needed a little help, but GW students were too busy with their lives and their Saturday afternoon activities. He deserved respect and help, but instead he received blank stares and uncaring faces. Coming from Oklahoma, I used to joke that people on the East Coast were uncaring and rude. Now I have seen a perfect example.

I couldn't believe what I was seeing. I still don't believe it happened. Is another human life less important than Saturday errands? I cried all the way home thinking about it. Not just because a man

was so weak and helpless, I cried because no one gave a damn. If we are too busy to ask someone if they need help, how can we expect to solve anything? We can't end racism, or any other severe problems, if we don't have simple respect for human life.

I hope this was just an aberration, that at any other place and time people would have stopped. However, I fear that this is a prevalent attitude, and that it could happen at any time. Maybe we all need a wake-up call.

*—Corinne Fabrick
sophomore*

GW doesn't care

For an administration that has been often criticized for disregarding student input, I have a personal story that may illustrate just how little GW cares about how we feel. Last Monday in J Street, I had my ID card confiscated at dinner when I tried to use my meal. No explanation was given. "The computer just says we have to confiscate your card," I was told.

When I went back to the Dining Services office, I was given very little indication as to why my card was confiscated. Instead, they asked me to fill out a survey about what meal plan I was on and any comments I had. I was told the surveys were a part of some audit of Dining Services. Instead of walking downstairs to J Street and handing out surveys, they decided to really use their brains and make the students come to them!

As I was getting ready to fill out the comments section of the survey, I was told, "Just write 'none' in the comments section – that's what everyone else has been doing."

First they confiscate my card, then they don't even care to hear what I have to say. I had classes and midterms to worry about, so I promptly filled out the survey and left with my card. My problems were over ... or so I thought.

Last weekend, I was told the computer was ordering that my card be confiscated again! Guess what it was this time; no, not another survey. Apparently my ID had been coded with the wrong Social Security number and it had to be re-coded. Apparently this error had remained unnoticed throughout the entire year, and they decided to wait until midterms to do something about it. I asked, "You're sure my ID won't be confiscated again?" and they replied jokingly, "Well, we might confiscate it next week." I wasn't laughing.

This editorial is not for students, because they already know how stupidly things can be done at this University. This is for the administration. The message is: If you want our input, just ask. Some of us are actually willing to help make GW better instead of just bitching. But if you don't stop treating us like children and start giving us some respect, you are going to find student support very hard to come by.

So next time there is something wrong with my ID, let me know instead of making life difficult. Making a simple phone call probably takes less time than putting a hold on my card, and it will make my life a whole lot easier. And next time you need a survey filled out, stop me in person – you might actually get something useful.

*—Anand Shivanani
senior*

Our tuition questions need to be answered

I understand the logic in raising tuition to keep ahead of inflation. This is common among other American colleges and universities. But I've been really wondering lately about the way the GW administration spends its financial resources.

Since the 6.9 percent tuition hike was announced, I've been even more curious. Understanding that there needs to be some kind of increase, I still wonder why it has to be so severe. If there was responsible allocation and spending of funds, would such a hike be necessary?

Will the tuition increase lead to increased grants and scholarships? Will we get a new and improved financial aid office? What exactly will the new \$200 technology fee do for students? Why does the price of dining services have to go up by 6 percent, when the administration can cover its costs with only a 4.5 percent increase?

Let us suppose briefly that such a drastic increase was really necessary. Still, at the very least, the administration must thoroughly present its plans to its students and their parents, the people who sustain this university. What is the exact breakdown of how tuition and funds will be spent? Reading Associate Vice President for Business Affairs Al Ingle say that he "serves at the will and pleasure of the Board of Trustees" makes me tired.

At the town hall meeting in

Thurston Hall last week, petitions by SAYIT (Students Against Yearly Increasing Tuition) were signed, and the SA circulated a questionnaire ranking student gripes to present to the administration when they meet Thursday. I offer my ideas now as possible next steps.

How about the circulation of a letter-style petition to President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, which could then be personally delivered by student leaders to his office? The letter should be conciliatory and conclude by asking President

Trachtenberg and the vice presidents to address another town hall meeting that would be widely advertised and conveniently located.

If after that it is still clear our questions are not sincerely being considered, perhaps students could gather outside Rice Hall or wherever the administration meets with the Board of Trustees to finalize the proposed increase. Won't they have some concern over finalizing this very important proposal if so many students are outside peacefully gathered together to protest?

The way I view this situation, our worst case scenario is that the increase passes and many students (including myself) can't return in the fall. (Yes, right, GW's loss, but will they care?) Yet at the very least, the administration will realize students aren't so complacent after all.

—Dileep Rajan is a sophomore majoring in biology.

*Dileep
Rajan*

SA makes Academic Update available on-line

'User-friendly' evaluation will save money and paper

BY MATT BERGER
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

Students now will be able to find out about GW professors on the World Wide Web when the Student Association's Academic Update goes on-line later this month.

The SA currently publishes two Academic Updates each year to provide students with information about class instructors. The booklets are distributed free of charge to students and are based on information gathered from surveys in classes.

But starting this semester, the

printed version will not be published, saving the SA an estimated \$14,000 a year. The SA also expects to save more than 100,000 pieces of paper.

Instead, students will be able to access the information through the Student Association's Web site:

<http://www.gwu.edu/~gwusa>.

"It is a more efficient way of distributing the Academic Update information to students," SA Vice President for Academic Affairs David Cleary said in a press release. "Because of its accessibility, more students will be able to take advantage of this service."

Instead of the booklets, with classes listed in alphabetical order by major, the majors and classes will be listed on the Web. A click of the mouse will allow students to access each major and class.

"I plan on it being very user-friendly," said Jeff Baxter, the SA's director of computer affairs, who is creating the Web page. The page will have two versions, one that supports graphical interfaces, such as Netscape, and one that will work for GWIS2 users.

Cleary said a major publicity campaign will accompany the unveiling of the on-line Update, set for March 27. He said he is speaking with officials at the Computer Information and Resource Center to get publicity for the web site, including a possible direct link from GWIS2.

The unveiling of the Web site will be at one of the computer labs and will feature a tutorial for using the on-line Academic Update.

"It promotes the concept of needing to improve the computer resources for academic purposes," Cleary said of the on-line Update.

"I think it's a great way of saving a lot of paper and having the information readily available to the entire student body," said SA Executive Vice President Dianne Gayoski. "It is definitely a betterment of the GW community."

"I think it's terrific," said Polly Berman, assistant director for the Institute for the Environment at GW. "The fact that they have made the decision to put the Academic Update on-line should be commended."

"I definitely would encourage (the SA) to think about these issues in the future and work with us," she said.

Members of the SA said they hope to increase awareness of their Web page through the Update.

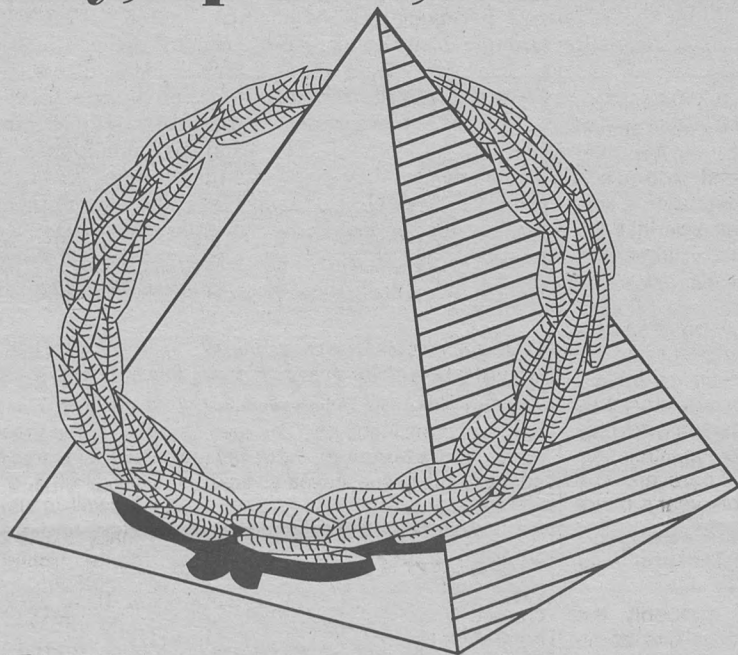
"I think it will give more prominence to the SA Web page," Baxter said.

He added, "For students without a computer, it may be a little bit harder (to access the Academic Update)."

But Cleary said it is a small concession when compared to the amount of paper and money saved.

Excellence in Student Life

Thursday, April 17, 1997 • 6:30 PM



Call For Nominations

Nomination Packets are now available in the Office of Campus Activities, Marvin Center 427, the Office of Residential Life, Rice Hall 402 and the Marvin Center Administrative Office, Marvin Center 204 for the following awards:

The Baer Award for Individual Excellence
The Gail Short Hanson Outstanding Service Award
Registered Student Organization Award
Student Organization Advisor of the Year Award
The Walter G. Bryte Jr. Achievement Award
GW Scholarship for Leadership Development

The deadline for nominations is
Wednesday, March 26th, 1997.

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Contact Amy Duhaime or Janeen Latini at 994-6555 for additional information.

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WEEKEND

Actors jones for change in films

BY ALISON GAZAN
WEEKEND WRITER

When Nia Long, Bill Bellamy and Theodore Witcher burst into a room laughing and talking, the three appear to be close friends instead of co-workers. With Bellamy taunting Long and Witcher interjecting his own comments, one can only imagine what happened behind the scenes of their latest collaboration, the romantic comedy *love jones* (New Line Cinema).

"We just got tight and all of us started getting cliquey," Bellamy said in an interview in Washington. "After a while, we were really the friends we were supposed to be anyway. So everything you see on screen makes it seem like we've known each other forever."

The latest release from writer and director Witcher, *love jones* details the relationship between Darius (Larenz Tate) and Nina (Long) as they repeatedly fall in and out of love. However, *love jones* is more than a mundane love story. The film also offers a candid view on friendship, including that between Darius and Hollywood (Bellamy).

"Even though the characters are black, the theme is colorless. Love, romance and friendship — everyone can relate to that," Bellamy said.

"Everybody likes it. It's not just a black thing. I'm so tired of Hollywood being a black and a white thing. If it's a film everyone can relate to, let's be colorless about it," Long added.

Although the idea of a romantic comedy seems rather simplistic, love is not usually the focus of black screenwriters and directors. Witcher said he attributes this oversight to "a lack of vision on the part of studio executives and a lack of vision on the part of the creative community. Both sides have failed the audiences. This is just a small, small step in an attempt to rectify it."

"All we did was make a love story," he said. "The fact that we made a love story and it's news that it's a story about young black people in love is appalling. People should look at us and say 'That's old,' but they're not."

With productions such as *love jones*, Witcher said he also hopes to dispel many of the stereotypes that exist in society.

"All of us are committed in our various disciplines and various fields of endeavor to changing some perceptions of black people to the larger community, to the dominant culture and to our own community because there are a lot of black people who don't know that these kinds of people are out there," Witcher said.

By producing such unconventional images, the entire production team risks the acceptance and success of the film, but they said they are not concerned.

"My advice is don't be afraid," Long said. "Just do your thing and do it for yourself. Because if you do it for yourself, it will come across as being real. If it comes across as being real, most times people will embrace it."

In future projects, Bellamy, Long and Witcher said they plan to continue with such efforts. In Long's next film, *Soul Fool*, she plays the younger sister of her co-stars Vivica A. Fox and Vanessa Williams. Returning to the antics characteristic of Bellamy, he stars in *How to Be a Player*, to be released this August.

Witcher foresees his next project as a jazz documentary. Regardless of his next film, he said he plans to adhere to the advice of a good friend and "go where (he's) needed."

love jones redefines romantic comedies

BY ALISON GAZAN
WEEKEND WRITER

It's a story that's been done before. And it's inevitably a story that will be done again. However, *love jones* (New Line Cinema) produces more than the

Hatchet Rating: 

typical love story.

After her engagement ends, Nina (Nia Long, *Friday*) claims love

is "played out like an eight-track." But her view quickly changes when she meets Darius (Larenz Tate, *Menace II Society*) at the Sanctuary, a cozy bar in a back alley of Chicago where friends retreat to enjoy poetry.

After many attempts, Darius finally lures Nina into going on a date. Although their evening ends in a passionate love scene, neither will admit their true feelings and both claim they're "just kickin' it." Yet, they cannot suppress their true feelings.

(See RICH, p. 4)

Patient, Maguire are leading Oscar hopefuls

BY JUSTIN BERGMAN
WEEKEND EDITOR

March certainly is an exciting time. Not only do we have spring break and the NCAA basketball tournament to look forward to, but the Academy Awards are also on the horizon, scheduled for March 24 at 9 p.m. on the ABC.

Even though this year's nominees are not the most widely known actors, and the majority of the movies were produced by independent studios and seen by few outside major cities, there is no reason to say that the nominations "universally blow," as *Independence Magazine* did in its March 10 issue.

Instead, this should be seen as a time to celebrate new talent and the accomplishment of these low-budget films in actually creating storylines and characters that don't revolve around special effect monstrosities. With that being said, here are The Hatchet's picks for this year's major awards:

Best Actor

This category is probably the most competitive, as all five nominees have turned in magnificent and well-received performances. The problem with the selections, though, is that four of the five actors portray characters with physical or mental disabilities. And for some strange reason, the Academy seems to favor these types of performances (just ask Tom Hanks, who won for *Forrest Gump*, or Dustin Hoffman, who won for *Rain Man*).

This would seem to give Geoffrey Rush of *Shine* and Billy Bob Thornton of *Sling Blade* the advantage here. I would have to say that Rush is the favorite, based on the incredible reviews he has received for his performance as a mentally-disturbed pianist. Thornton is great also, but his character may have been a little too similar to Gump to win.

If these two cancel each other out, though, look for Tom Cruise to sneak in to win his first Oscar for *Jerry Maguire*. Cruise shows a desperate



Francis McDormand is likely to win her first Oscar for her portrayal of Brainerd, Minn., Police Chief Marge Gunderson in *Fargo*.

emotion in the film unlike anything he has ever done in the past. He may be rewarded for his career longevity and past box office successes as well.

Best Actress

The Oscar is practically a lock for *Fargo* star Francis McDormand, who created a wonderfully complex and humorous character as the pregnant Police Chief Marge Gunderson. *Fargo* was released last February, though, and it is not the freshest movie on the minds of the Academy voters.

Kristen Scott Thomas also may win for her performance in the romantic drama *The English Patient*. The British actress has been a Hollywood "darling" since appearing opposite Hugh Grant in *Four Weddings and a Funeral*, and the Academy may decide that the time is right for an Oscar.

Best Supporting Actor

Edward Norton seems to have the advantage in this category, but again, the mentally-disturbed role may be too easy a cop-out for the Academy. Norton is a Hollywood newcomer, but has shined in the last year in three marquee films — *Primal Fear* (for which he is nominated as a schizophrenic killer), *Everyone Says I Love*

You and The People v. Larry Flynt.

Cuba Gooding Jr. is a strong contender in this field, as well, for his portrayal of Rod "Show me the money!" Tidwell in *Jerry Maguire*. William H. Macy is also exceptional as the worrisome protagonist in *Fargo*, but his character may have been too irritating to win over the voters.

Best Supporting Actress

Joan Allen should walk away with the statuette on Oscar night for her powerful and moving performance in the under-appreciated *The Crucible*. She was nominated last year for *Nixon* and should finally win this year. But the same can be said about veteran actress Lauren Bacall (*The Mirror Has Two Faces*), who has never won an Academy Award. Bacall may snag the Oscar merely for sentimental reasons.

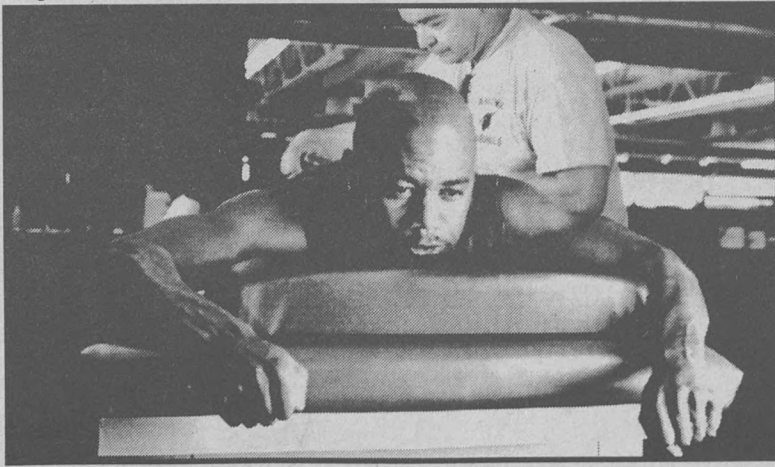
Juliette Binoche (*The English Patient*) is also a strong contender. The sultry French actress lit up the screen as Ralph Fiennes' nurse in the film. She has the unique ability to tell an entire story through the slightest expression on her face.

Best Director

This category is really a toss-up, as all five nominees are deserving. Anthony Minghella (*The English Patient*) and Joel Coen (*Fargo*) may stand apart based on the successes of their films, and Milos Forman (*The People v. Larry Flynt*) could be a dark horse on his reputation alone. Whichever film takes the award for best picture will most likely also nab this Oscar.

Best Picture

This one is also tough to call because it really depends on what the Academy is looking for this year. In the last few years, epic dramas and box office booms have been selected (including *Forrest Gump*, *Braveheart* and *Schindler's List*), which bodes well for *The English Patient* and *Jerry Maguire*. I would give the nod to *The English Patient*, though, because it is more of an overall quality film than *Jerry Maguire*.



Show him the Oscar! Cuba Gooding Jr. is a leading contender in the Best Supporting Actor category.



* Have a restful (yet uninformed) Spring Break... The Hatchet will resume publishing Thursday, March 27 *

larenz TATE nia LONG

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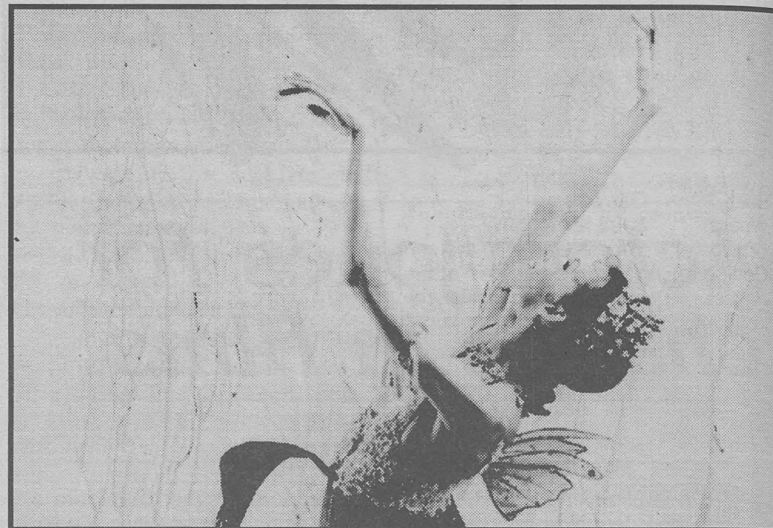
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The Washington Ballet performs Shakespeare's romantic mix-up comedy 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at Lisner March 21-22.

The Bard dances

BY CINDY MORRIS
WEEKEND WRITER

The Washington Ballet will perform choreographer Peter Anastos' full-length production of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" next week at GW's Lisner Auditorium.

A re-creation in dance of William Shakespeare's famous tale of star-crossed lovers, magic potions, fairies, kings and queens, the ballet is set to the music of Felix Mendelssohn.

Anastos promises that despite the complicated plot, as a ballet, the story is quite clear. According to him, the ballet is "low tech." At a rehearsal Friday, he said it relies on the dancers and their ability to portray the story.

The plot of "A Midsummer Night's Dream" comes across without a problem. Dance allows for the mixed-up couples to show their personalities, and the audience members will recognize these personalities easily. If they do not, then they can rely on the color-coded costumes Claudia Lynch designed.

Anastos explained that it is his job to make the dancers look good. "You need to step back from yourself and look from a distance."

He said that as the choreographer, that is his job. "You can't make them any better than they are."

That is not necessary while working with the Washington Ballet. The 20 members of the company come from around the world and bring a wealth of talent to the table. Anastos is working with more than just the adults for this show — students from the 50-year-old Washington Ballet school will perform in the ballet as well.

The Washington Ballet will perform "A Midsummer's Dream" Friday, March 21 and Saturday, March 22. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased by calling TicketMaster at (202) 432-SEAT. For more information, call (202) 994-1500.

Creation myth charms all ages

BY NICOLE SPEULDA
WEEKEND WRITER

In the spirit of creative and fantastical myths, Pulitzer Prize-winner N. Scott Momaday brings "Children of the Sun" to the Kennedy Center during the month of March.

The play is a dramatization of a Kiowa Native American legend, showing the relationship between the people, their land and the sun. Aimed at educating and entertaining children, this historical recollection of native myth promotes cultural awareness of this Central Plains tribe for an audience of all ages.

The cast is composed of three people who each portray various characters. Cordis Heard plays the role of Grandmother Spider, enchanting the audience as chief storyteller. Stuart Bird and Royana Black act as Father, Mother, Bird, Alia, Sun and the twins, in a symbolic meshing of generations and creatures.

The main focus of this story is how the twins, called Talyi-dai, or "boy medicine," led their people through a series of hardships and explore their spiritual heritage.

After living on several reservations throughout his life, Momaday has excelled as a teacher, artist, poet and storyteller. He also is a Regents Professor at the University of Arizona. His novels include *House Made of Sun*, *The Gourd Dancer* and *Angel of Geese and Other Poems*, which all explore his cultural roots.

"Children of the Sun" continues through March 20 in the Kennedy Center's Theater Lab. Tickets are \$10. For more information or tickets,

Hatchet Rating:



WEEKEND

'Golden Child' lights up Kennedy Center

BY ALISON GAZAN
WEEKEND WRITER

Drawing from his own ancestral heritage, Tony Award-winning playwright David Henry Hwang displays the problems in combining Western and Eastern cultures in "Golden Child," now at the Kennedy Center.

Anticipating the arrival of his first child, Andrew Kwong (Stan Egi) is

small lesson in Chinese customs, Hwang creates a play that both entertains and educates.

Under the direction of the acclaimed James Lapine ("Into the Woods"), the cast of "Golden Child" brilliantly executes Hwang's story. The comical interactions between the three wives, portrayed by Tsai Chin, Midori Nakamura and Liana Pai occur naturally and effortlessly. The strength of their performances, as well as Egi's remarkable stage presence, greatly contribute to the success of "Golden Child."

Portraying the missionary Reverend Baines, John Christopher Jones also brings a unique aspect to the show. Jones humorously speaks with broken English to demonstrate the difficulty he would experience if

communicating in Chinese.

However, Soelistyo clearly captivates the audience with her youthful vivacity. As Ahn's ghost, Soelistyo demonstrates the wisdom of an elder, but then quickly transforms into the curious, young Ahn. Her petite physique and boundless energy leave the audience wondering the true age of Soelistyo.

With the chemistry of the actors permeating the stage, "Golden Child" warrants numerous accolades. The smooth delivery of Hwang's humorous script produces a delightful comedy with educational undertones.

"Golden Child" continues through March 30 at the Kennedy Center's Eisenhower Theater. Tickets are \$38-53. For more information or tickets, call (202) 467-4600.

Hatchet Rating:



visited by the ghost of his grandmother, Ahn (Julyana Soelistyo). In order to prepare Andrew for the birth, Ahn describes her own childhood in China in 1918.

When Ahn's father, Eng Tieng-Bin returned from a business trip to the Philippines in 1918, he brought home a Westernized ideology incongruent with his traditional Chinese lifestyle. When Eng's three wives each respond differently to his revelations, their simple life becomes chaotic. A further division among the family surfaces when a Christian missionary visits the family.

However, young Ahn willingly accepts these changes, especially the removal of her footbindings. Ahn's story of her family's transition from ancestor worship to Christianity provides Andrew with a new outlook on his heritage and the birth of his child.

"Golden Child" explores the problems many Chinese families came across when they implemented Western culture into their own. Successfully combining humor and a

Millennium Stage brings art to all

As part of the "Performing Arts for Everyone" program, the Kennedy Center opened the Millennium Stage on March 1. Every evening at 6 p.m., the Millennium Stage showcases various talents, many of whom have local ties. In order to allow more people to enjoy the Kennedy Center, all performances on the Millennium Stage are free.

The different shows will correspond with the theme for the month. March is "Music In Schools Month," April will feature African performing arts and May showcases "Music From the Movies."

Upcoming performances include the Howard University Jazz Band on March 14; the Vaughn Nark Quintet, a jazz ensemble, on March 15; and jazz pianist Chris Zeller on March 16.

All performances last approximately one hour and take place on the Millennium Stage in the Grand Foyer of the Kennedy Center.

—Alison Gazan

Keitel's City moves at a country pace

BY TONY HILTON
WEEKEND WRITER

City of Industry (Orion) does not quite hold up to powerful expectations, but the story definitely appeals to the sensibility of the movie-going audience.

In the film, a criminal named Lee Egan (Timothy Hutton of *French Kiss*) gathers together a crew of rogues to pull off the heist of a lifetime. Among his cohorts are Skip Kovich (Stephen Dorff of *Blood & Wine*), the unpredictable getaway driver Jorge Montana (Wade Dominguez of *Dangerous Minds*) and Roy Egan (Harvey Keitel, *Pulp Fiction*), Lee's experienced criminal brother brought in for extra muscle.

The story begins in the traditional manner: The plan is laid out, scrutinized for details and double-checked for accuracy. Once the heist takes place, everything seems fine, but an unpredictable element pops up. Skip decides he wants all the money for himself. So he kills both Jorge and Lee, but Roy is able to get away before Skip has the chance to take him down as well.

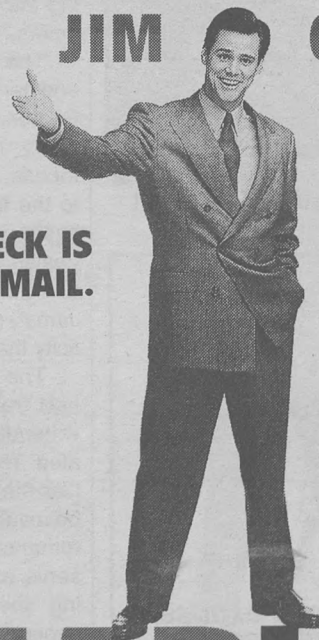
From there, the film turns into a story about vengeance as Roy weeds his way through the dirty streets of Los Angeles, enlisting the aid of Jorge's wife, Rachel (Famke Janssen), to track down and kill Skip.

The movie follows the scripted formula prevalent in action movies of this type, so there are few surprises. Keitel holds true to form, once again giving a performance that is memorable, but the story proves to be too slow-paced for an action/suspense movie.

The film's failing is that it may be too realistic. Every move Keitel makes is exactly what should and could be done by someone in his character's position. At the same time, the reality of it all means viewers will not leave the theater puzzling, "Now how did he do that?"

City of Industry opens in theaters Friday.

Hatchet Rating:

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Sat.-Sun. 11:00, 2:00, 5:10,
8:00, 10:40
Mon.-Thurs. 5:20, 8:00,
10:30

Absolute Power (R)
Fri.-Sat. 1:30, 6:00, 8:30,
11:00 (10:30 a.m. Sat.)
Sun. 10:30, 1:30, 6:00, 8:20,
10:40
Mon.-Thurs. 7:45, 10:10

Jerry Maguire (R)
Fri.-Sat. 2:15, 8:10, 10:50
Sun. 2:15, 8:05, 10:40
Mon.-Thurs. 5:00, 7:50

Fools Rush In (PG-13)
Fri. 12:00, 4:00
Sat.-Sun. 11:30, 4:00
Mon.-Thurs. 10:30

Sling Blade (R)
Fri. 1:45, 4:40, 7:40, 10:35
Sat.-Sun. 10:45, 1:45, 4:30,
7:20, 10:15
Mon.-Thurs. 5:15, 8:00,
10:30

The Empire Strikes Back (PG)
Fri. 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00,
10:40
Sat.-Sun. 10:45, 1:45, 5:15,
8:00, 10:35
Mon.-Thurs. 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

Rosewood (R)
Fri.-Sun. 5:20
Mon.-Thurs. 5:00

Private Parts (R)
Fri.-Sat. 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 8:00,
10:40 (10:00 a.m. Sat.)
Sun. 10:00, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15,
8:00, 10:20
Mon.-Thurs. 5:45, 8:10, 10:30

Return of the Jedi (PG)
Fri. 1:15, 4:30, 7:30, 10:45
Sat. 10:30, 1:00, 4:15, 7:30,
10:45
Sun. 10:30, 1:00, 4:15, 7:30,
10:20
Mon.-Thurs. 4:50, 7:40, 10:20

AMC Union Station 9
50 Massachusetts Ave., N.E.
(703) 998-4AMC

love jones (R)
Fri.-Sun. 1:30, 4:40, 7:40, 7:40,
10:20
Mon.-Thurs. 1:30, 4:40, 7:40,
10:30

Rosewood (R)
Fri.-Sun. 12:50, 4:00, 7:00,
10:00
Mon.-Thurs. 12:50, 4:00, 7:00,
10:00

Return of the Jedi (PG)
Fri.-Sun. 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
Mon.-Thurs. 1:20, 4:20, 7:20,
10:10

That Darn Cat (PG)
daily 1:10

The Empire Strikes Back (PG)
Fri.-Sun. 1:50, 5:00, 8:05, 10:50
Mon.-Thurs. 1:40, 5:00, 7:50,
10:35

Booty Call (R)
daily 2:00, 5:10, 8:10, 10:40

Jungle 2 Jungle (PG)
Fri.-Sun. 1:40, 4:30, 7:35, 10:10
Mon.-Thurs. 1:40, 4:30, 8:00,
10:30

Private Parts (R)
Fri.-Sun. 1:15, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
Mon.-Thurs. 1:15, 4:30, 7:30,
10:20

Absolute Power (R)
Fri.-Sun. 1:00, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40
Mon.-Thurs. 1:00, 4:50, 7:35,
9:55

Vegas Vacation (R)
daily 4:10

Jerry Maguire (R)
daily 7:10, 10:05

Cineplex Odeon Foundry

M St. at Thomas Jefferson Ave.
(703) 714-9062

Big Night (R)
daily 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 (2:00 Sat.-
Sun.)

Michael Collins (R)
daily 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 (1:30 Sat.-
Sun.)

Breaking the Waves (R)
daily 5:00, 8:00 (2:00 Sat.-Sun.)

Swingers (R)
daily 4:35, 7:05, 9:35 (2:05 Sat.-
Sun.)

Emma (PG)
daily 4:40, 7:10, 9:40 (2:10 Sat.-
Sun.)

The Portrait of a Lady (PG-13)
daily 5:15, 8:15 (2:15 Sat.-Sun.)

Fargo (R)
daily 4:55, 7:25, 9:55 (2:25
Sat.-Sun.)

Cineplex Odeon Dupont Circle

1350 19th St., N.W.
(703) 714-9037

subUrbia (R)
daily 1:00, 7:00

Shine (PG-13)
daily 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45,
10:00

Smilla's Sense of Snow (R)
daily 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45

Sling Blade (R)
daily 1:20, 3:30, 4:10, 7:00,
9:20, 9:50

The English Patient (R)
daily 1:15, 4:45, 8:15

Cineplex Odeon Wisconsin Avenue

4000 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.
(703) 714-9032

Smilla's Sense of Snow (R)
daily 1:45, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35

Everyone Says I Love You (R)
daily 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30,
9:40

Private Parts (R)
daily 1:15, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00,
7:00, 7:30, 9:30, 10:00

Jerry Maguire (R)
daily 1:20, 7:00 (no 7:00 show
Tue.-Thurs.)

The Empire Strikes Back (PG)
daily 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00

Rosewood (R)
daily 4:10, 9:50

Cineplex Odeon West End 1-4

23rd and L. Streets, N.W.
(703) 714-9035

Donnie Brasco (R)
daily 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45

City of Industry (R)
daily 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Private Parts (R)
daily 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

Marvin's Room (PG-13)
daily 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
(no 7:00, 9:30 Wed., 9:45
instead)

Cineplex Odeon Tenley

4200 Wisconsin Ave., N.W.
(703) 714-9043

Booty Call (R)
daily 9:40

Marvin's Room (PG-13)
daily 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

love jones (R)
daily 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50

Absolute Power (R)
daily 2:10, 4:40, 7:10 (no 7:10
show Thurs.)

*The above listing is for movies
playing between Fri., March
14 and Thurs., Mar. 20, as
provided by theaters.*

9:30 Club
815 V. St., N.W.
(202) 393-0930

Thurs. Eels with Dazyhaze
Fri. Cranes with Rasputina
and Tone
Sat. Cowboy Mouth with
Jolene and Farmer
Sun. Morphine with Wooden
Leg and Trona

The Bayou
3135 K. St., N.W.
(202) 333-2897

Thurs. River with Blind
Man's Sun and The
Weatherman
Fri. Vic Chesnutt with Scud
Mountain Boys
Sat. Fighting Gravity with
Modern Yesturday
Sun. Wailing Souls

The Black Cat
1831 14th St., N.W.
(202) 667-7960

Thurs. Kerosene 454 with
Boys' Life and Most Secret
Method
Fri. Pollyplush Cats with
Gogh Van Gogh and Break
Sat. Dismemberment Plan
with Candy Machine and Five
State Drive
Sun. Analogue with
Telegraph Melts and
Commodore 64

The Capitol Ballroom
Half and K Streets, S.E.
(202) 554-1500

No shows listed



Despite their obvious attraction, Nina and Darius just can't seem to make a commitment in *love jones*.

Hatchet Rating Scale



What are you
waiting for?



Foreplay



Al Gore



Not a good excuse
to cut class



Not even if you get
a free T-shirt

Rich culture of Chicago is backdrop for love jones

(from p. 1)

love jones portrays the cycle of falling in love, falling out of love and finding the courage to start all over. But the film exceeds the limits of many romantic comedies by exploring the friendships among the characters.

The interactions between Nina and her best friend Josie (Lisa Nicole Carson, *Devil in a Blue Dress*) mirror many relationships between girlfriends, and add a humorous aspect to the film. Furthermore, the banter exchanged among Darius, Savon (Isaiah Washington, *Get On the Bus*) and Hollywood (Bill Bellamy, "MTV Jams") exude an undeniable authenticity that strengthens *love jones*.

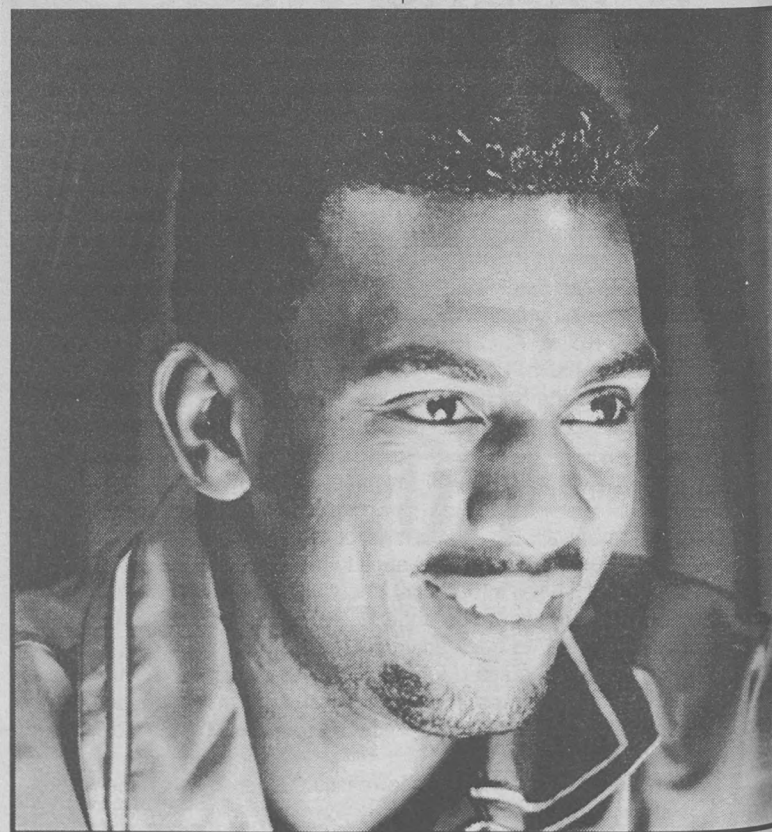
The talent and chemistry of the cast truly illuminates the characters writer/director Theodore Witcher created. The realistic and humane qualities the characters possess produce believable friendships and romances. The relationships also serve as stepping-stones to featuring the intellectual and cultural aspects of the black community.

The poetry at the Sanctuary, the background music of classic black artists and a scene at the "steppers" ball combine to illustrate an aspect of Chicago that is often overlooked. Witcher beautifully incorporates the many outlets of expression among the urban, 20-something generation

and the cast brilliantly executes such scenes.

Although the story is exquisitely performed, *love jones* culminates in a predictable ending. Fortunately,

the movie terminates just in time to evade a repetitious plot. But the stronger aspects of the film balance out these problematic areas. *love jones opens in theaters Friday.*



MTV's Bill Bellamy makes the jump to the big screen as Darius' true-to-guy-form friend, Hollywood.

Court rules JEC poll was improper

Ballot questions were unauthorized

BY MATT BERGER
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

The Student Court ruled this week that the Joint Elections Committee acted arbitrarily and capriciously when it placed two non-binding questions on the ballot during campus elections last month.

The questions, placed on the ballots in all voting machines, asked voters whether they would support a ban on palmcarding and poster during elections.

Student Association President Damian McKenna and Executive Vice President Dianne Gayoski brought the case to court, claiming the JEC lacked authority to place questions on the ballot.

In a four-part brief written on behalf of a unanimous court, Chief Judge Tom Boer stated, "The Court finds that the JEC does not have the authority to ask a question of any kind, regardless of the terminology used to describe the question on the ballot."

Boer said the action was arbitrary and capricious because the questions were not announced until the day of the election and were not identified as non-binding. He also said the JEC did not use the least controversial method of polling student opinion.

"We had the best of intentions," JEC member Jeff Carroll said of the poll. "In the future, the JEC has to either make the decision themselves or conduct a poll, which would cost the students money."

The ruling also said the JEC acted improperly by making no effort to prevent others from learning the results of the questions after the court enjoined the JEC from releasing the information. The GW Hatchet released the results calculated during the challengers' tour of the voting booths.

"I think it is absurd that the JEC disregarded an injunction from the court," McKenna said.

"Tom Boer said he trusted us to do whatever he wanted us to do at that point," JEC Chair Chris Moody said. "I am not sure exactly what we were supposed to do. We didn't officially count the numbers."

The plaintiff's brief called the JEC's filing of an alternative case a "stalling technique." The JEC filed *Moody v. McKenna*, claiming that the SA had to let Vice President for Legislative and Judicial Affairs Shawn Stephens serve as counsel for the JEC. The case was dropped before going to court.

"It wasn't a stalling technique," Moody said. "At the point I filed (*Moody v. McKenna*), we didn't have counsel ... I think it's interesting that they say it is a stalling technique, but also say that it is an issue that should be addressed."

"It was a complete and total waste of time," McKenna said of the counter-suit.

"The way that they have written it out makes it sound logical," Moody said of the decision. "But I think that it is interesting that the court had to argue the case for the SA," Moody said. "Everything the SA argued was either called irrelevant or wasn't ruled on. The point that the SA left out - arbitrary and capricious - the court argued for the SA."

"The court was established to deal with problems like this," McKenna said. "(The JEC is) here to run the elections, not to be this separate body."

"I don't agree with the broad ruling they made that the JEC is not allowed to ask ballot questions and that the only way that a question could go on the ballot is through an SA referendum that has to be binding," JEC member Andy Norin said.

Gargano: e-mail was not an order

(from p. 1)

a member of the 1995 Colonial Cabinet, said the University had no right to send the e-mail.

"We have a constitutional right to assembly and it's wrong to instruct the Cabinet that they shouldn't participate," he said. "I don't see it as appropriate. Just because the '97 Cabinet is in training now doesn't mean they're not students and doesn't mean they're not paying tuition."

"It was an opportunity to take a Cabinet that is very young and try to get them to look at issues in a broader context ... whether they understand that is something totally different," Gargano said. "There was no response back from them, no response of hostility."

Gargano said he had some questions about the purpose and direction of the protest. "The issues just seemed to be all over the board ... dining services,

communication, tuition possibilities - and as you talk to students, I try to take something away from the conversation ... I find that they may not have a good grasp on the issues."

The boycott is being organized by members of the SA in association with the student group SAYIT (Students Against Yearly Increases in Tuition) and members of other student organizations.

The Colonial Cabinet member who asked not to be identified said some other members of the Cabinet are now less likely to participate in the protest, for fear of damaging their relationships with Gargano and rest of the administration.

"The last thing I would try to do is strong-arm a group of 22 students that I selected and who I admire," Gargano said. "I'm excited about this Colonial Cabinet and what they can accomplish this year."

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Trachtenberg says new city plan is good for University

(from p. 1)

depressed parts of the city.

In the first phase of his plan, Clinton proposed that the federal government assume many of the high-cost budget items that have forced the District into a nightmarish downward fiscal spiral.

The federal government would assume control of the District's prisons, infrastructure, pension plans and tax collection and would pick up a larger share of the city's Medicare payment. In return, Capitol Hill would discontinue the annual \$650 million payment to the city.

City Councilmember Jack Evans (Ward 2) said while he supports Clinton's ambitious agenda to help reform D.C., economic incentives will not turn around a city without other, more substantial, measures.

"What the president announced (Tuesday) was a nice gesture," Evans said, "but it's not enough. In my experience, you can't name a city in the country where tax incentives have turned the city around."

Evans said he supports the entire Clinton plan, except for the discontinuation of the federal payment to the District and the lack of D.C. Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton's proposed substantial federal income tax cuts.

"That is an absolutely horrible idea," he said of the discontinuation of the payment. "It's not helpful to the District."

While many in the city have criticized Clinton's plan as federal encroachment on the treasured ideal of home rule, Evans said the plan will free needed tax dollars for residents and allow the city to cut its stifling income, property and sales taxes comparable to levels of suburban Maryland and Virginia.

"The money we spend (on expenditures typically assumed by a state) should be spent on infrastructure and job creation," Evans said. "But we'll have a better working city that looks better with better schools and safer streets."

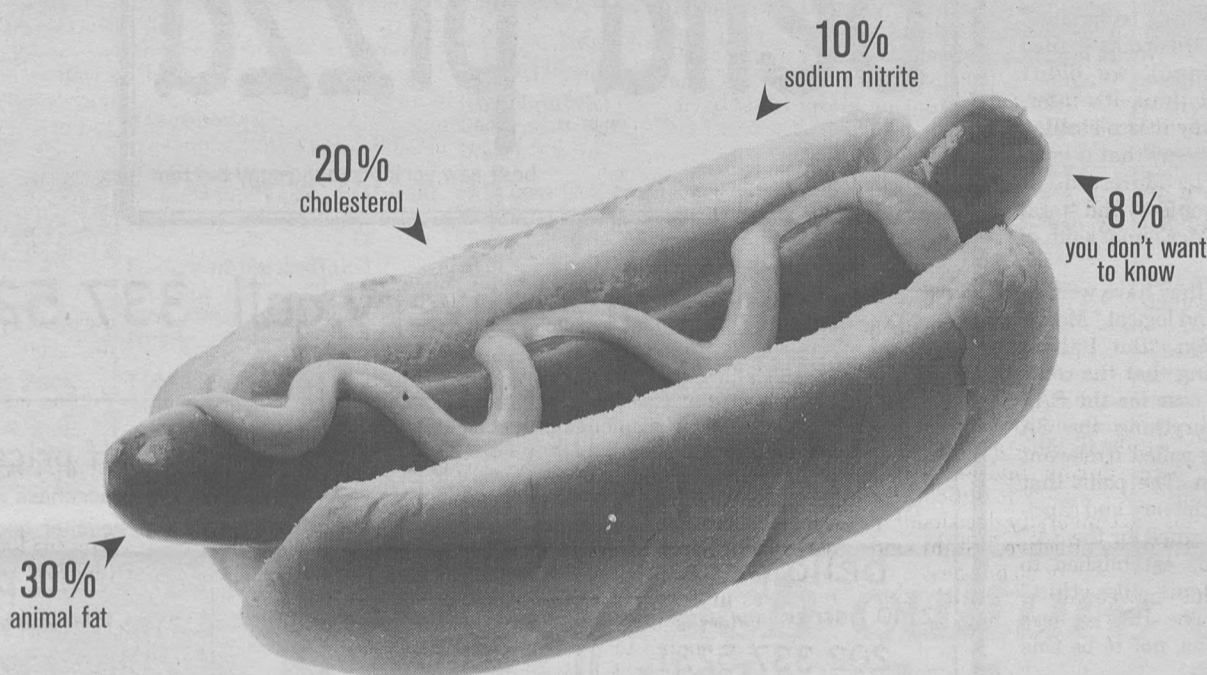
Trachtenberg, who called the plan only "act one of a three-act play," said a better managed D.C. will result in a stronger GW.

"One of the biggest burdens of running a university in the District of Columbia is the shortcomings of the city," he said. "They're always crying poor and threatening to do draconian things, so if we can calm all that down, we'll be better for it."

CORRECTIONS

The article "TKE clothes area homeless" on p. 11 of the March 3 issue of The GW Hatchet should have identified Paul Gerber as a member of the fraternity.

The article "SORC opens to rave reviews from students" on p. 17 of the March 10 issue of The GW Hatchet should have identified Heather Rothman as a member of the Class of 1999 Committee. The same story should not have said Jonathan Pompan was involved with a committee that planned the Student Organization Resource Center this summer.



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Habitat chapter comes to GW

Group plans spring building projects in Virginia, Maryland

BY STACEY FELSEN
HATCHET STAFF WRITER

GW students expressed excitement that the University is getting its own chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and 40 people attended the group's first meeting on campus March 3.

Habitat for Humanity is a non-profit Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate substandard housing worldwide. Houses are sold at no profit to partner families and financed with no-interest mortgages.

Homeowners are required to invest "sweat equity" labor hours into the construction of their houses. Costs are kept low through donations from individuals, corporations and foundations, according to program literature. Volunteers are invited to a dedication ceremony of the home.

"It is so rewarding in many ways to the people on the builds and the homeowners," said Ramya Vivekanandan, contact person for GW's Habitat for Humanity chapter.

Some people were surprised the University did not have a chapter until now.

"I was very surprised that GW didn't have a Habitat. This is something GW really needed," freshman Heidi Wicker said.

"I chose to get involved with Habitat for Humanity because the issues of homelessness and housing are the two that I am interested in, that I feel I can make a serious impact upon in my lifetime," sophomore

Patrick Preston said.

A similar program at GW, Project Renovate, renovates homes as part of the Neighbors' Project and works with Manna, a local non-profit housing developer. Many found this a "confusing concept," according to Smita Vadakekalam, a GW chapter board member.

Vivekanandan volunteered to head GW's chapter of Habitat for Humanity. The group registered as a GW student organization and as a campus chapter with Habitat International.

"It is a really good concept. People are really motivated for a well-known organization. There are always enough volunteers," Vadakekalam said.

Students at GW will go on building expeditions, or "builds," primarily on Saturdays. Under the direction of an on-site construction manager, students will be able to paint, shingle, hammer and carpet homes.

Information about the builds will be sent to interested students over e-mail. Because a certain number of spaces are allotted for each build, participants will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

A build will be organized April 5 at Fort Totten Road in Washington for a permanent housing unit for single homeless people.

Hands on D.C., on April 12, will help to rehabilitate the city's public schools and raise scholarship money for low-income students.

"We are here in D.C. Sometimes the campus can be its own community. It is good to get an idea of what the city is like and do something to help it," Richardson said.

700 Series provides range of options

(from p. 1)

course grew from her Chinese culture through film class and reflects the cooperative enterprises between Frost and her students, who together worked to shape the new class, she explained.

"The course is not meant to be an advocacy course or exposé on the plight of women. Rather it's a handle, a window, into Chinese culture," Frost said.

Another course, ethics and health policy, is designed to kindle appreciation of philosophy's role in medicine, according to professor Kenneth Schaffner.

Schaffner said he enjoys the mix of students that his classes attract. Lawyers, medical students, engineers, undergraduates and nurses all bring different backgrounds and create a "fertile cross-discipline that is hard to replicate outside the classroom," Schaffner said.

Dr. Roderick French, associate director of the University Honors Program and a former GW vice president for academic affairs, founded the 700 Series when "reform was in

the air," Scarboro said.

The program originated because students were displeased with the rigidity of their curriculum, Scarboro said.

"It was not to protest, but rather a pressure valve for students and faculty to be creative," she said.

700 Series courses rid professors of the bureaucratic red tape required to allow students to receive credit for taking interdisciplinary courses. For example, students can register for elements of communitarian thinking with Dr. Amitai Etzioni through the anthropology, economics, international affairs, philosophy, political science or sociology departments.

The 700 Series also strives to widen the curriculum. Faculty may propose a course and use the 700 Series as experimental ground.

"These classes incorporate so many subjects ... it's real, it's practical and you can learn different disciplines as well as discover how they apply to each other," said Reena Shah, a junior environmental studies major.

Eateries offer boycott meal deals

(from p. 1)

Commission Chair Jesse Strauss. A boycott is "the least confrontational way" to "send a constructive message," he said.

Palm cards will be distributed listing the local eateries that will offer meal deals and discount options to picketers. Bella Pizza, The Burro, Charlie Chiang's, Domino's Pizza, La Prima, Lindy's Bon Appetit and World Gourmet are among the participants.

"We need to exercise our right to go off campus," Siple said.

"I think it is great that students are showing solidarity. The implicit message is that we can go elsewhere," Strauss said.

Also Thursday morning, the Student Leadership Team, which includes representatives of various student groups, will meet with administrators at the Marvin Center's University Club to discuss the proposed cost increases.

According to literature prepared for Monday night's meeting on the boycott, the goal of the event is to include more student input in University decisions by increasing

the communication between students and administrators.

"There is no student voice, and we need the students' voice. We need this movement now. There has been a lack of student voice for too long," Siple said.

Junior Rusty Stahl said the University's decision to schedule its meeting with the Leadership Team during midterms and prior to spring break makes it difficult for students to impact University decisions.

"I think it will be effective," Stahl said of the boycott. "We have to do our best during midterms and spring break. It's time we as students stand up and show that we have a say."

Organizers are also encouraging students to have their parents call the University to express their concerns about the proposed tuition hike. The Office of Undergraduate Admissions has a toll-free number (1-800-447-3765) that parents can call to be connected with other University departments.

Literature prepared for Monday night's meeting directed callers to identify them-

selves as the parent of a GW student and ask to be transferred to the main University number (202-994-1000), the office of President Stephen Joel Trachtenberg (202-994-6500) or the Office of the Board of Trustees (202-994-8610).

"This has been an ongoing process. They don't listen to students, they listen to the people who pay the bills," said Doug Miner, president of the College Democrats.

The boycott has been organized by members of the SA in conjunction with the student group SAYIT (Students Against Yearly Increases in Tuition). A coalition of student group leaders is also backing the event.

"We are hoping to show how serious we are. Next year we will be paying more than Georgetown," said Jason Haber, an undergraduate senator-elect for the Columbian School of Arts and Sciences. "If the price of a school equals the price of service, we should be fourth and fifth in the country, not 46th. Dollars don't equal a better school."

-Monique L. Harding contributed to this report.

Off Campus Meal Deals For Boycott

Au Bon Pain 2000 Penn	\$1 off all combo meals
Bella Pizza 2140 F Street	2 slices of pizza and a soda for \$2.00
The Burro 2000 Penn	Burrito, soda and chips for \$4.75
Charlie Chiang's 1912 Eye Street	10% off all menu items
Domino's Pizza 223-1100	2 pizzas for the price of one (delivery only)
La Prima 2000 Penn	15% off all menu items
Lindy's Bon Appetit 2000 Penn	Burger, fries and soda for \$5.00
Papa John's 2523 Penn Ave.	Large 2-topping pizza for \$5.99
World Gourmet across from Thurston Hall	25% off all menu items

Source: SA



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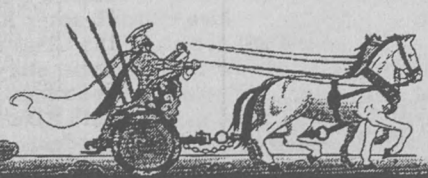
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SPORTS

GW scores 21 runs in 1-1 stretch

BY DAVE ADLER
HATCHET SPORTS WRITER

GW continued to hit well despite its falling record while splitting a pair of games against the University of Maryland-Baltimore County and Mount St. Mary's. The Colonials are now 3-13 on the year.

Although they played without leading hitter Dwayne Crawley, who is out with an ankle injury, five GW players hit six home runs in the two games.

GW 13, Mount St. Mary's 6

GW was propelled to victory by a wild pitch in the seventh inning of Wednesday's road game in Emmitsburg, Md.

With the game tied at six, Mount St. Mary's reliever Chris Devins uncorked a wild pitch that allowed the Colonials to get the go-ahead run.

The Colonials added on to the lead in the eighth

inning by scoring two runs and had four in the ninth.

Chris Matarese continued his hot hitting with a three-run homer in the first to give GW a 4-0 lead.

GW survived a comeback in the third when Mount St. Mary's scored four runs to tie the game at five.

Bob Brown got the win in relief of starter David Kloes.

UMBC 13, GW 8

Five home runs could not offset four errors as GW lost at Barcroft Park Tuesday.

Starter Matt Williams received a 4-2 lead in the third inning with homers by Troy Allen, Joe Beichert and Cassedy Smith. Williams could not hold the lead, however, as the Retrievers scored two in the fourth to tie.

A two-run homer in the sixth off reliever Scott Shalom gave UMBC the lead for good.

Shalom took the loss and dropped to 0-1.

GW plays three games this weekend at home against St. Peter's.

The Muted Cheer

To hell with objectivity,
March Madness is here

Underdogs or favorites, who will prevail in this year's NCAA men's basketball tournament? Every year, the opening rounds are marked and remembered by some incredible upsets that send brackets across the country into a tailspin.

Last year it was Princeton back-dooring UCLA in the first round, and this year it might well be Princeton again as they face beatable teams like California

and possibly Villanova. Speaking of Villanova, who's to say it will beat Long Island University?

Another possible upset team in the East Region could be the Minutemen of Massachusetts. Earlier in the year the Muted Cheer chastised Louisville and New Mexico for being talented, yet inconsistent. Sure enough, UMass — a quality team with the all-important experienced back court — opens the tournament with Louisville and could face New Mexico in the second round. That is if New Mexico can survive Old Dominion, a team that upset Kerry Kittles' Villanova team in the first round a few years back.

As for the East, the Muted Cheer has lost all sense of objectivity and is picking North Carolina to beat neighbor South Carolina and go to the Final Four.

The Southeast Region will hold the tournament's most intriguing first round game between Maryland and the College of Charleston. Forget the seeding mistake that put Charleston a No. 12 spot. Both teams are good and should play a quick and exciting game. Look for Maryland to win because Charleston will not be able to sneak up on them.

Also look for top-seed Kansas to roll through the rather mediocre region (Georgia's a three seed and Arizona's a four) and defeat undersized Duke in the regional final.

The West and Midwest regions will prove beyond any doubt how superior the Atlantic Coast Conference is this year. In the West, Kentucky will not make the Final Four because the loss of Derek Anderson is too much to overcome. Utah is an extremely talented team, but the Utes already lost to Wake Forest at home this year.

Tim Duncan will lead Wake Forest past Utah and into the Final Four after beating Kentucky in the regional final. After an incredibly arduous ACC season, the argument that seven-footers Brad Millard of Pacific and Tim Young of Stanford will wear Duncan down is wrong. Duncan is way too strong and fast for both of them as well as anyone else in the tournament.

Minnesota is a good team, but there is simply too much talent in its Midwest bracket. Seeds one through six are by far the best of any region. If Minnesota can somehow survive Temple in the second round, look for the underrated and forgotten Clemson Tigers to beat the Golden Gophers. In the bottom half of the bracket, Iowa State should be able to knock off erratic Cincinnati. The Cyclones also have a great shot at defeating red-hot UCLA. Either way, Clemson should be headed to Indianapolis at the end of March.

-Dave Adler

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SPORTS

The Wizard's Words

Talented GW benefits from greedy NCAA

The women's NCAA Tournament is here, and GW is getting the national recognition it has deserved all year.

Regardless of the recent loss to St. Joseph's, the Colonial Women are a complete team. They have an outstanding motivator/strategist in head coach Joe McKeown, reliable senior leadership in Tajama Abraham, Lisa Cermignano and Colleen McCrear and bright young stars such as Marlo Egleston, Noelia Gomez and Chasity Myers.

I think the NCAA selection committee realizes all this and gave GW the advantage it "deserves" by giving it a home seed.

As impressed as I am with the season the GW women have had so far this year, however, I am equally unimpressed with the way the NCAA Tournament is organized. It is obviously growing in stature, but it has a long way to go in the fairness department before it reaches the magnitude of the men's tourney.

The reason I put "deserve" in quotes above is that no team deserves a home game. This is a national tournament.

With more than 300 Division I teams, many of whom have never played each other and might not have even played opponents that others have played, it's tough to know how to distinguish, say, a No. 3 seed from a No. 5, or a 4 from a 6.

However, getting the home game that usually accompanies a No. 4 seed is a huge advantage that will probably be the difference in some second round games.

The reason the NCAA gives out home seeds is the same reason it does a lot of things — money. It wants to make sure the games have a decent attendance so more money comes in, and the NCAA is scared that neutral-site games in the first two rounds won't draw enough people.

I think that's horrible logic. Maybe they wouldn't have big crowds right away, but this is a growing sport. Perhaps if people saw that the tournament was run in a fair, competitive way, then attendance would be at least as good at neutral sites within a year or two.

Nonetheless, enjoy the GW game and hope that the Colonial Women get to the Sweet 16 and prove how good they are, even on a neutral site.

—Ben Osborne

Men's tennis responds to coach's challenge

BY JAMIE LIN
HATCHET SPORTS WRITER

Sometimes people just need a little reminder to get them back on track. The GW men's tennis team got just that recently in the form of a pep talk from head coach Joe Mesmer.

"We had a little talk about caring a little more," Mesmer said. "It's a bit different from many other sports where if we don't care about the match, obviously, nobody's there who really cares. They've got a lot of other things going on so it has to come from the guys who are playing in the match."

After those words of wisdom, the Colonials marched onto the Hains Point courts Sunday and came up with a 4-3 victory over a tough Bloomsburg University team that is a contender for the NCAA Division III championship.

"That win for us, with the way we've been struggling as a team, it might have saved the season," Mesmer said. The victory improved the Colonials' overall record to 3-7.

Not only was the final score close, but so were the individual matches. Three singles matches went into the third set. No. 1 seed Anders Bergkvist squeaked by 7-5, 7-5.

"I just try to stay in it, stay even as long as I can, and once it gets tight around 4-4 and 5-5, I try to raise my level," Bergkvist said.

With the tenseness of the close matches, a sense of frustration could be felt in the chilly air. Racquets were thrown, balls bounced high and a loud barrage of

comments streamed from the mouths of players.

But Bergkvist managed to stay calm. "It matches my personality," he said. "I was able to focus."

GW's No. 2 player, Kent Wright, came up on the other side of another close match 6-4, 7-6. With the guidance of teammates and his coach, the freshman has made a smooth transition to NCAA play.

"In college, tennis is like part of a team instead of playing individually. You're playing for the team and the school instead of just for yourself," Wright said.

Junior Scott Lowder, the team's No. 3 singles player, talked himself through a three-set victory in which he came back from a 6-0 first set loss. His 6-3 second set evened things up, but Lowder needed a tiebreaker in the third to win the thriller.

Aided by support from many of his teammates who had already finished playing, Evan Harte pulled off a 7-5, 2-6, 6-2 win at the No. 4 position.

In doubles action, the duos of Wright and Harte and Lowder and Brad Shafran won 8-4 and 8-6, respectively. Shafran re-injured his shoulder and he may not be able to play singles after the break.

"We have a lot of matches when we come back from spring break, so hopefully they'll remember this because this was great. In general the whole group pulled together," Mesmer said.

Earlier in the weekend GW suffered a 6-1 blowout at the hands of Penn State. The team's lone point came from Mike Rozofsky's 3-6, 7-6, 7-6 victory at the No. 5 spot.

GW falls to Spartans in NIT

Rogers scores 18 as Colonials fall

BY MATT BONESTEEL
SPORTS EDITOR

The up-and-down season for the GW men's basketball team reached its final nadir Wednesday night in the first round of the National Invitation Tournament, as the Colonials bowed to Michigan State 65-50 in front of 7,066 at the Breslin Center in East Lansing, Mich.

GW, a notoriously poor shooting team in the regular season, lived up to the advanced billing against the Spartans, shooting 31 percent from the field. The same could not be said for Michigan State, which hit 49 percent of its field goals on the way to victory.

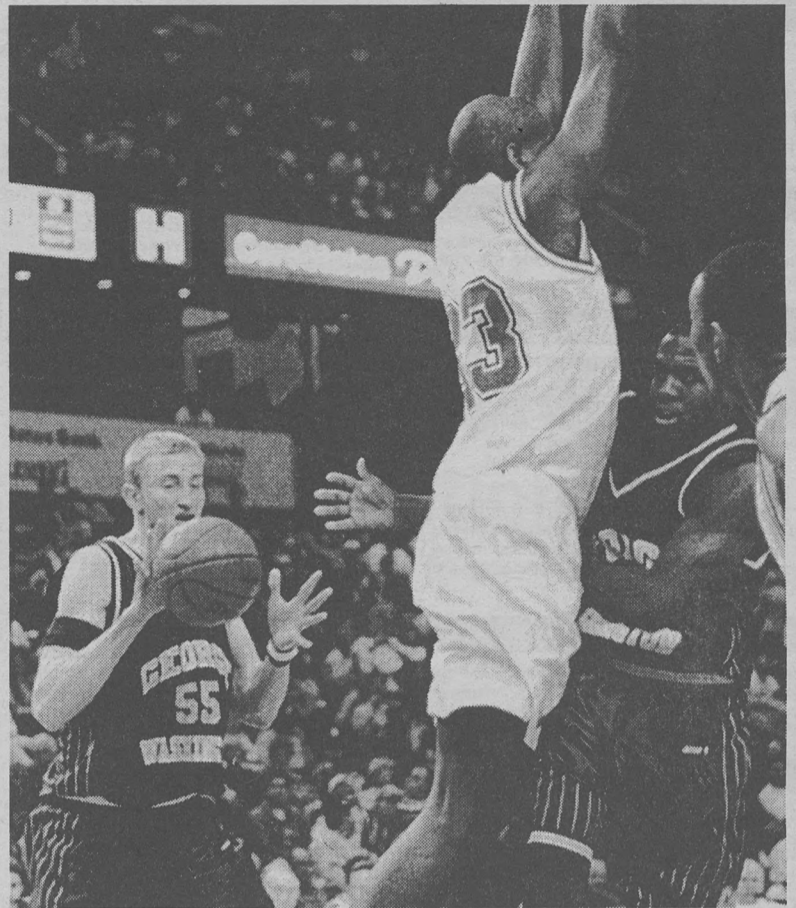
Shawnta Rogers led the Colonials with 18 points. Both Yegor Mescheriakov and Alexander Koul added nine, with Koul fouling out at the 6:38 mark of the second half.

The Spartans jumped all over GW in the first half, hitting four three-pointers on their way to a 36-16 halftime lead. The Colonials struck back early in the second half, switching to a 1-3-1 trap zone defense that gave Michigan State fits.

GW also got hot from the field, going on a 21-8 run to close the Spartan lead to only nine points with 9:44 to go. But Michigan State responded with a 13-2 run of its own to put the game out of reach.

Ray Weathers paced the Spartans with 18 points, 13 coming in the first half. Thomas Kelley added 12, while heralded freshman guard Mateen Cleaves had 11.

While shooting and foul trouble have plagued GW all season, rebounding has not. The Colonials usually are solid on the boards, but not against Michigan State. The Spartans simply demolished the



Claire Duggan/Photo Editor

Yegor Mescheriakov, Shawnta Rogers and the rest of the Colonials ended their season with a whimper Wednesday night, shooting just 31 percent from the field in a 65-50 loss to Michigan State.

Colonials on the glass, outrebounding them 43-22. Antonio Smith, a 6-8 forward, was a machine, grabbing 14 boards for Michigan State.

This is even more surprising considering that the Spartans have no player taller than 6-9 and the Colonials have big men Koul and Mescheriakov, as well as shorter players like Rogers and J.J. Brade who have proven themselves on the glass this season. Brade led GW with five rebounds.

Michigan State improved to 17-11 with the win and will move on to face Florida State in the second round of the NIT.

GW finishes up at 15-14, which is not the record many expected this team to have at the end of the year. But the Colonials, who started four sophomores for most of the year, return all five starters next season and lose only one player — backup center Ferdinand Williams — to graduation.

BACKBOARD BOX



PROBABLE STARTERS

NAME	YEAR	POS.	PPG	RPG
DIVJAK	SOPH.	F	19.1	5.9
CHAWANSKY	SOPH.	F	16.2	6.1
HANNAFORD	SENIOR	C	11.7	6.4
RATAY	SENIOR	G	19.5	6.1
DEWALL	JUNIOR	G	6.6	3.7

No. 12 seed Northwestern (17-10)

Last game: Lost to Iowa, 73-63, March 1

Northwestern has to be somewhat of a mystery to GW. The Lady Wildcats play in the Big 10 and played just one team that GW did. That was Penn State, which beat GW in December but fell to Northwestern in January. Northwestern's biggest strength is outside shooting. They are led by sophomore small forward Kristina Divjak, who is shooting 44 percent from downtown this season and averages 19.1 points per game. Stopping her will be the responsibility of GW's Lisa Cermignano.

Northwestern at GW, Sat., 8:30 p.m. at the Smith Ctr.



PROBABLE STARTERS

NAME	YEAR	Pos.	PPG	RPG
CERMIGNANO SR.		F	10.3	4.1
GOMEZ	JUNIOR	F	17.3	7.0
ABRAHAM	SENIOR	C	20.1	7.4
MCCRER	SENIOR	G	4.0	3.5
MYERS	FRESH.	G	11.1	4.5

No. 5 seed George Washington (24-4)

Last game: Lost to St. Joseph's, 59-56, March 3

The Colonial Women are coming off a loss for the first time since December. How will they respond? Odds are they'll be fine. The St. Joe's loss in the Atlantic 10 championship game provided GW with the one thing it hadn't been through in a long time — a close game. That experience should benefit the Colonial Women as they look to make the Sweet 16 for the second time in three years. One big advantage against Northwestern will be GW's size, as NU's Hannaford is its tallest starter at just 6-2.

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